

### Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment has been prepared, and is being filed, in response to the Office Action of August 20, 2009 respecting the above-identified U.S. Patent Application.

In that action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3 as being unpatentable (although the Examiner used the word “anticipated”) over U.S. Patent No. 7,218,405 to Aschenbrenner *et al.* in view of newly cited and applied U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0196493 of Christiansen *et al.*, and rejected claims 2 and 4 also as being unpatentable over Aschenbrenner *et al.* in view of Christiansen *et al.* and Matsuhara *et al.*, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0190045.

Regarding some general thoughts at the outset respecting this cited and applied art -- art which, on careful examination, is seen to be seriously deficient in its ability to support the Examiner’s claim rejections -- the Examiner expressly admits that both Aschenbrenner *et al.* and Matsuhara *et al.* *fail to disclose a method which is PDF-exclusive*, and that Aschenbrenner *et al.*, additionally, *fails to disclose a method wherein a block of image-only PDF data which has been detected is directed to a path involving image decoding and, downstream from image decoding, rendering for printing*. These “failure” admissions leave only a very tight and barely perceptible path for the successful threading of a rational argument support any position that reference combination herein, assuming it was proper (which it is not), can come up with applicants’ claimed invention. Such a path is neither proper, nor has been found, as is pointed out below.

What the Examiner apparently does not yet recognize is the newly cited and applied Christiansen *et al.* reference also fails to disclose a method which is PDF-exclusive, as

*claimed by applicants.*

Applicants have carefully reviewed the subject Office Action, along with the Examiner's comments respecting his thoughts about claim rejections, and of course, all of the cited and applied prior art, including the newly cited Christiansen *et al.* reference which the Examiner finds necessary to use in all claim rejections stated in the Action.

By the present Amendment, notwithstanding applicants belief that all claims as they are *currently presented* in this application (i.e., before entry of the present Amendment) are clearly distinguishable, and patentably so, over the cited and applied references, no matter whether those references are taken singly or in any combination, or in combination with any asserted knowledge in the state of the art at the time of applicants' invention, applicants propose by the present Amendment certain modest modifications in the claims which help to emphasize features of applicants' invention which are clearly not made obvious by any of the Examiner's proposed prior-art-reference combinations. More specifically, as the currently amended claims now point out with greater emphasis, applicants' apparatus and methodology are exclusively, and dedicatedly, PDF image-only in nature -- dedicated, on a full-time basis, to dealing exclusively, and therefore only, with guiding the specific processing/handling of PDF image-only files, with respect to which handling a PDF data stream containing only image-only file data is directed solely to a full-time dedicated and exclusive PDF image-only pipeline for processing.

Nothing about the now cited and applied prior art references, which are "assertedly" combinable in accordance with the Examiner's statements in the current Office Action, come anywhere close to disclosing or suggesting what applicants have invented and

claimed. For example, the newly cited Christensen *et al.* reference is focused on involving a raster image processing pipeline in a setting which is intentionally designed for handling, *non-exclusively and nondedicatedly*, several different kinds of page-description -language data files. It, the Christensen *et al.* structure/methodology, is not in any way dedicated to the *exclusive* handling of *PDF image-only* data, notwithstanding that it may temporarily, and under the conscious, and time-consuming intervention of a system administrator, be configured to handle PDF file material.

This newly cited and applied reference discloses a pipeline concept in which a pipeline is clearly and intentionally not dedicated to any particular kind of processing, but rather is a concept focused on the utility of a non dedicated pipeline which may be freely configured in a variety of *different ways* to deal at *different times* with *different ones* of the several therein-mentioned types of page-description-language documents. The pipeline proposed within the Christiansen *et al.* reference is one which expressly and purposely involves a time-consuming configuring of the pipeline once a particular kind of document has been determined to be one that is intended to be processed. The reference thus discloses a situation, cumbersome in relation to applicants' full-time dedicated pipeline system and methodology, wherein an administrator is required to define a schedule with respect to times for the assignments of appropriate resources to the disclosed, reconfigurable pipeline for data handling.

Hardly does such a disclosure have anything to do with the efficient presentation and claiming by applicants of their structure and methodology which involves handling, in a full-time dedicated PDF image-only manner, a stream of PDF image-only data. It is very clear, even assuming that any one of the Examiner's proposed reference combinations including the

Christiansen *et al.* reference were permissible under the law in order to support an argument of obviousness, it seems inconceivable that someone of ordinary skill in the art, and especially someone who is rational and in that category of persons, would choose to introduce into another system, such as into either of the systems disclosed in the other two references, the inefficient system of Christiansen *et al.* which involves time-consuming, administrator-required scheduling to prepare/specially configure a data handling pipeline for the handling of a specific kind of data.

When one clearly recognizes, as is admitted by the Examiner, that both Aschenbrenner *et al.* and Matsuhara *et al.* fail to disclose PDF image-only dedicated structure and methodology, and further recognize that Christiansen *et al.* is similarly deficient, it should be plainly apparent even to the casual observer, that the Examiner's proposed combination would neither (a) produce applicant's claimed invention, nor (b) do much more than *disturb and interfere with whatever may be the resident efficiencies* of the Aschenbrenner *et al.* and Matsuhara *et al.* systems and methodologies -- *disturb and interfere* by the incorporation of pipeline structure and methodology (Christiansen *et al.*) requiring time-consuming, administrator-required, time-based, page-description-language, data-type configuration.

For the reasons stated above, and recognizing that the currently proposed amendments in the currently amended claims help to emphasize the above-stressed important and distinguishing features of applicants' invention, it should be clear that all claims now presented in this application, on the basis of entry of the present Amendment, are clearly in conditions for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this application, and allowance of all claims therein, are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment or

remarks, the Examiner is invited to contact Attorney-of-Record Jon M. Dickinson, Esq., at 503-504-2271.

**Provisional Request for Extension of time in Which to Respond**

Should this response be deemed to be untimely, Applicants hereby request an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any over-payment to Account No. 22-0258.

Customer Number

55428

Respectfully Submitted,

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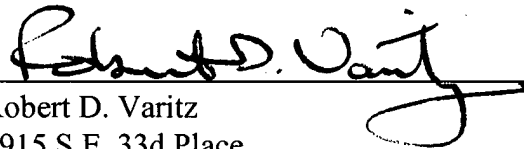
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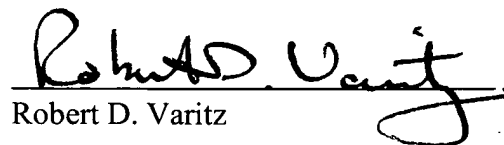
**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No.  
Date of Deposit - November 13, 2009

EM404027883US

I hereby certify that the attached Response to Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450



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